

Listing of the Claims

This listing of claims includes no claim amendments or cancellations.

1. (Withdrawn): Substantially pure growth differentiation factor-16 (GDF-16).
2. (Previously Presented): An isolated polynucleotide sequence encoding the growth differentiation factor-16 (GDF-16) polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously Presented): The polynucleotide sequence of claim 2, wherein the polynucleotide is isolated from a mammalian cell.
5. (Previously Presented): The polynucleotide of claim 4, wherein the mammalian cell is selected from the group consisting of mouse, rat, and human cell.
6. (Previously Presented): An expression vector including the polynucleotide of claim 2.
7. (Previously Presented): The vector of claim 6, wherein the vector is a plasmid.
8. (Previously Presented): The vector of claim 6, wherein the vector is a virus.
9. (Previously Presented): A host cell stably transformed with the vector of claim 6.
10. (Previously Presented): The host cell of claim 9, wherein the cell is prokaryotic.
11. (Previously Presented): The host cell of claim 9, wherein the cell is eukaryotic.

12. (Withdrawn): Antibodies that bind to the polypeptide of claim 1 or fragments thereof.

13. (Withdrawn): The antibodies of claim 12, wherein the antibodies are polyclonal

14. (Withdrawn): The antibodies of claim 12, wherein the antibodies are monoclonal.

15. (Withdrawn): A method of detecting a cell proliferative disorder comprising contacting the antibody of claim 12 with a specimen of a subject suspected of having a GDF-16 associated disorder and detecting binding of the antibody.

16. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 15, wherein the detecting is in vivo.

17. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 16, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.

18. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 17, wherein the detectable label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, a bioluminescent compound and a chemiluminescent compound.

19. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 15, wherein the detection is in vitro.

20. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 19, wherein the antibody is detectably labeled.

21. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 20, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, a bioluminescent compound, a chemoluminescent compound and an enzyme.

22. (Withdrawn): A method of treating a cell proliferative disorder or immunologic disorder associated with expression of GDF-16, comprising contacting the cells with a reagent which suppresses the GDF-16 activity.

23. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 22, wherein the reagent is an anti-GDF- 16 antibody.

24. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 22, wherein the reagent is a GDF-16 antisense sequence.

25. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 22, wherein the reagent which suppresses GDF-16 activity is introduced to a cell using a vector.

26. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 25, wherein the vector is a colloidal dispersion system.

27. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 26, wherein the colloidal dispersion system is a liposome.

28. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 27, wherein the liposome is essentially target specific.

29. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 28, wherein the liposome is anatomically targeted.

30. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 29, wherein the liposome is mechanistically targeted.

31. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 30, wherein the mechanistic targeting is passive.

32. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 30, wherein the mechanistic targeting is active.

33. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 32, wherein the liposome is actively targeted by coupling with a moiety selected from the group consisting of a sugar, a glycolipid, and a protein.

34. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 33, wherein the protein moiety is an antibody.

35. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 34, wherein the vector is a virus.

36. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 35, wherein the virus is an RNA virus.

37. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 36, wherein the RNA virus is a retrovirus.

38. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 37, wherein the retrovirus is essentially target specific.

39. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 38, wherein a moiety for target specificity is encoded by a polynucleotide inserted into the retroviral genome.

40. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 38, wherein a moiety for target specificity is selected from the group consisting of a sugar, a glycolipid. and a protein.

41. (Withdrawn): The method of claim 40, wherein the protein is an antibody.

42. (Withdrawn): A method for identifying a GDF-16 receptor polypeptide comprising:

- a) incubating components comprising GDF- 16 polypeptide and a cell expressing a receptor or a soluble receptor under conditions sufficient to allow the GDF-16 to bind to the receptor;
- b) measuring the binding of the GDF-16 polypeptide to the receptor; and

c) isolating the receptor.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled).

45. (Canceled).

46. (Canceled).

47. (Canceled).

48. (Canceled).

49. (Canceled).

50. (Canceled).

51. (Canceled).

52. (Canceled).

53. (Previously Presented): An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

- a) a nucleotide sequence encoding the growth differentiation factor-16 (GDF-16) polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2;
- b) a nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO:1, wherein T can also be U; or

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c) a nucleotide sequence complementary to the entire nucleotide sequence of SEQ

ID NO:1.

54. (Previously Presented): An expression vector including the polynucleotide of
claim 53.

55. (Previously Presented): A host cell stably transformed with the vector of claim 54.